

VLR - 6/20/89 NRHP - 11/13/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Trinity United Methodist Church
other names/site number 60-383

2. Location

East side of VA Route 723, 1/10 mile south of
street & number VA Route 603 N/A not for publication
city, town Ellett N/A vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Montgomery code 121 zip code 24073

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Prehistoric and Historic Resources of Montgomery County
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion: religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion: religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: nave plan

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Coursed rubble

walls Brick

roof Metal: tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Trinity United Methodist Church is situated in the village of Ellett in the valley of the North Fork of the Roanoke River on a lot to the east side of VA Route 723, the principal road through the village. The brick four-bay nave-plan church incorporates a two-stage corner tower, containing a vestibule at the northwest corner. The second stage of the tower takes the form of an open belfry with sawn brackets supporting a conical cap with finial and kicked eaves. The tower roof and pedimented gable end to the west are sheathed with pressed metal shingles. The pediment contains a circular vent. The principal (west) front contains two arch-headed windows. The original entry in the west side of the tower has been bricked up and a new entrance created in its north wall. The side windows have square sash below a segmental arch. The building is supported on a coursed rubble foundation and the walks are constructed in stretcher-bond brick. A projecting polygonal apse is located in the center of the east (rear) gable end.

The interior is well preserved. It is lit by stained-glass windows and incorporates a pressed metal ceiling with rosettes and stars, a decorative band, and a small cove molding. Window trim is molded and there is a vertical beaded tongue-and-groove wainscot with a chair rail. A raised platform with a turned balustrade carries the pulpit. An electrified cast-iron oil chandelier is hung in the center of the church and smaller oil lamps are located to either side of the pulpit and along the side walls. A small robing room opens off an apse behind the pulpit.

A modern brick annex is connected to the corner tower by a breezeway and a new doorway has been added to the north side of the corner tower. Its design harmonizes well with the earlier structure. A low basement-level addition is located along the north side of the church behind the breezeway.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1908-1910

Significant Dates

1908-1910

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Trinity United Methodist Church is eligible under criterion C as a good example of a regionally popular nave-plan church form with unusual decorative features including a fine interior and an ornamental corner tower containing a vestibule. No other rural church has a similar tower or decorative features; almost all are of simple frame nave-plan form with few decorative features. The church has been well preserved since its construction in the first decade of the twentieth century. A Sunday school wing added in 1961 carefully respects the form and integrity of the earlier church structure.

The Ellett Methodist Church was organized in June of 1856. It is shown as Trinity Methodist Church on the 1864 Confederate Engineer's Map. The land was deeded to the church by the Earhart family. Local traditions affirm that the original building, also constructed of brick, was torn down because the cost of repairing it was considered too high. The present church was constructed between 1908 and 1910 utilizing the bricks from the original church. The windows came from an old church at Fort Lewis near Salem. The church was dedicated in 1913.

The chandelier in the church was given by Mrs. J. C. Nichols of Bluefield and was made to hold twelve kerosene lamps. In 1961 a two-room Sunday school wing was built; at the same time the original entrance to the church was closed and a new entrance opened on the north side of the bell tower. The alterations to the church have not impaired its significance.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hinderson, Mrs. W. W. Interview, August 1973, quoted on 1973 survey form 60-383.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre.

UTM References

A

1	7
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5	5	6	0	1	0
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4	1	1	5	7	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at point A on the east side of VA Route 723 1,000 feet from the intersection of VA Route 723 and VA Route 603, proceed east 143 feet along south side of drive to point B, thence south 110 feet to point C, thence west 140 feet to point D, thence north 140 feet along the east side of VA Route 723 to the point of origin.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries were chosen to include the church and yard as defined by drive and road.

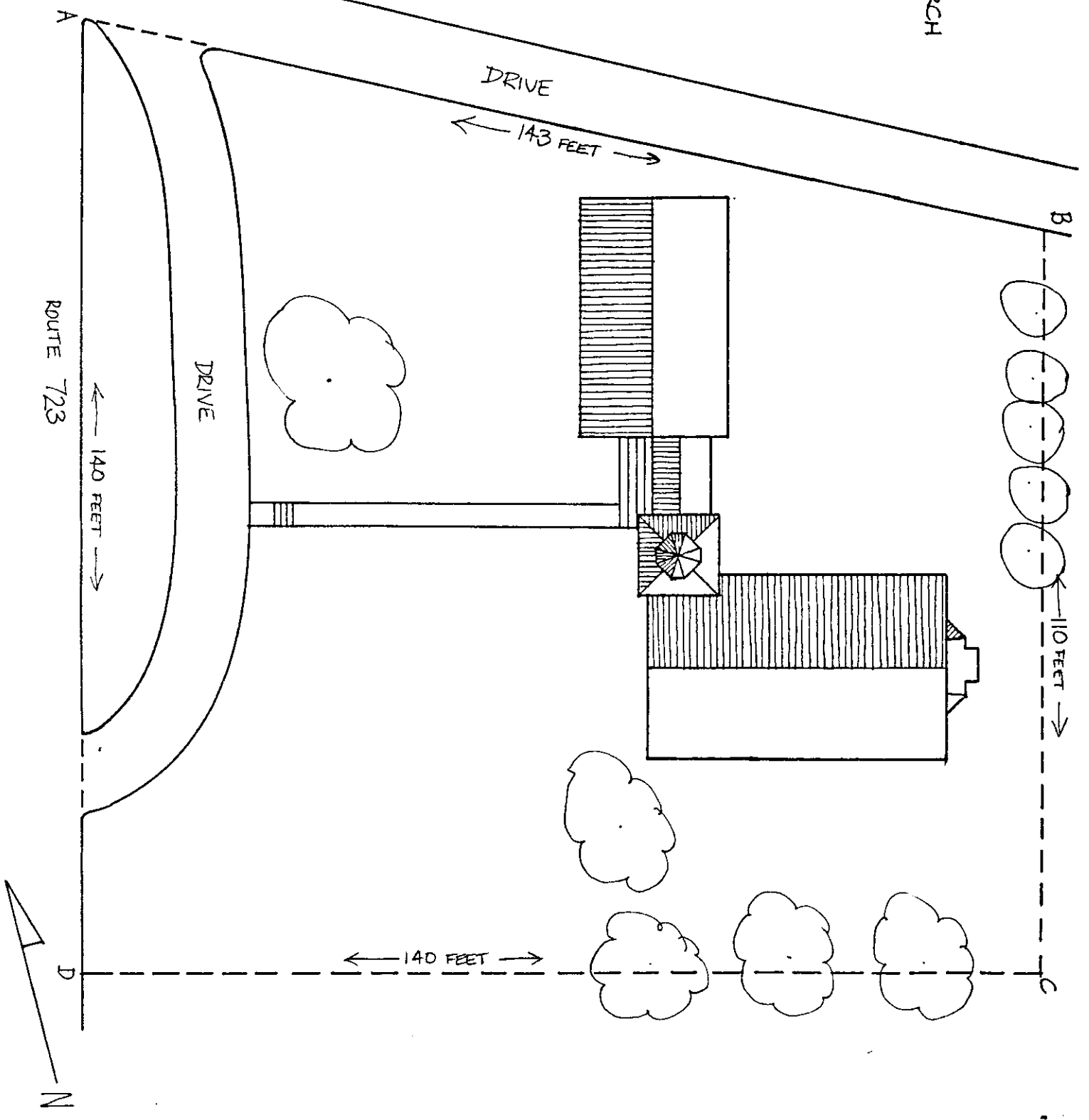
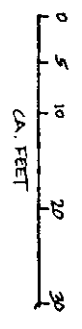
See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gibson Worsham
organization Gibson Worsham, Architect date June 1988
street & number Route 2, Yellow Sulphur Springs telephone (703) 552-4730
city or town Christiansburg state Virginia zip code 24073

60-383
TRINITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

G. WORSHAM
K. MARTIN 10/87



GEORGE EARHART
HOUSE

17 556590 4117810

VIRGINIAN RAILWAY
UNDER-PASS

17 556395 4116980

EARHART HOUSE

17 556230 4116550

TRINITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

17 556060 4115760

BLANKSHIP FARM

17 556430 4115310



4117

4116

4115

4114

10'

4113

4958 III NW
(BLACKSBURG)

4113